

January 31, 2014

PRAIRIE VALLEY SCHOOL DIVISION CELEBRATES SUCCESS WITH COMMUNITY REPORT

Prairie Valley School Division's *2012-2013 Community Report* was officially released at the Annual Meeting of Electors on January 22, 2014 in Southey.

The *2012-2013 Community Report* is the primary mechanism for reporting to stakeholders and to the public on accomplishments and achievements as well as areas of growth. The *2012-2013 Community Report* is a companion document to the now completed *2010-2013 Strategic Plan*, reporting on the delivery of goals and outcomes set by the *Strategic Plan* for the period of September 1, 2013 to August 31, 2013.

"We are pleased to once again report on a full and rewarding year for Prairie Valley School Division," said Board of Education Chair, Janet Kotylak. "This report provides our stakeholders and communities with detailed information on how Prairie Valley is leading learning success and supporting student development. The Board is especially proud of the Division's accomplishments and progress last year."

Highlights from the year include:

- Year over year improvement in 16 of 22 academic achievement areas, including reading, math and Treaty education.
- Increased student attendance and fewer student suspensions.
- Higher graduation rates, with 84 per cent of students graduating within three years of starting Grade 10. Within a five year period, the graduation rate increases to 89 per cent.
- Programming improvements across the Division, including the expansion of our magnet program, which allows students in schools with smaller populations to access specialized electives at neighbouring schools.
- Work on nine capital projects was completed or continued, with a combination of Ministry and Division funding. Projects included modernizations to Kipling School, Vibank Regional School and Balcarres Community School, an addition to the Education Centre, an expansion at Lumsden Elementary School, a

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relocatable classroom at École White City School, new Child Care Centres in Broadview School and James Hamblin School in Qu'Appelle, and starting construction on the brand new Emerald Ridge Elementary School, which will open in September 2014.

- Continued student engagement through course-selection surveys and the popular Student Senates, which allow students in Grades 6 to 12 to share opinions and feedback on issues that matter to them and impact their learning. Staff engagement also continued, through in-service days, focus groups, and school-based Administrator meetings. Engagement with the community remained an important factor and was carried out through surveys, public meetings, and regular School Community Council meetings.
- A balanced budget and clean audit opinion.

“In 2012-2013 we once again focused on delivering innovative and high quality education for our students,” said Ben Grebinski, Director of Education and CEO for Prairie Valley School Division. “In Prairie Valley School Division, we believe in growing students, not just test scores. We are committed to developing students through engaging and equitable programming, promoting respectful environments for learning, creating safe and modern learning spaces, and empowering our skilled and caring employees.”

The *2012-2013 Community Report* is available online at pvsd.ca under the “Plans & Reporting” tab, or available in print upon request.

Prairie Valley School Division serves approximately 8,100 students in 38 schools throughout southeast Saskatchewan. In support of the vision “Leadership in Learning and Life”, the Division strives to ensure a high-quality education that provides students with the tools to reach and exceed their potential.

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